

# Autumn Styles for Home Interiors

## 'Orphan' Fears Now Overcome

### Modern Furniture Proves Its Permanency; Also Being Standardized

By PHIL CREDDEN

Those who allowed their fancy to overcome their trepidation that they might be buying something that would soon be an orphan and invested in modern furniture in the last few years, can now proudly display the "I told you so" button in their lapel. In the recent summer market modern made such gains that proponents of the traditional styles have nothing to fall back on now but the argument, "Modern may be good today—but will it last, and where will it be 100 years from now?" I don't think that any of us much care what's going to happen a century hence; it's enough for most of us to know that modern is the leading furniture style today and is constantly being improved.

Because modern is the star style today and is constantly being improved. Because modern is the star style of the furniture world, any furniture style review must begin with an analysis of the changes that are taking place in its evolution as a period design that characterizes the changing world of our generation. A great deal of history has been written in our time, and it's only natural that a generation which created the automobile, the airplane, and radio would invent a new kind of furniture for the home. Such is modern—the functional style that expresses the feelings and thoughts of our time.

"Modern" Settles Down

Beginning with the grotesque and bizarre that reminded one of cubism and jigsaw puzzles, modern, like the rolling stone, has had its rough corners smoothed down until we have the smooth flowing, streamlined style of today. The designers of modern have stuck to their knitting and kept the functional idea supreme, drawing deep of the well of human comfort to achieve outward smartness, pleasing effects and furniture that is very livable and useful. With the showing of today's modern you can see well defined lines being set down that will characterize the modern style in the future. Having started with the purely functional idea—furniture usefulness and comfort—the designers have borrowed some of the best points of the old French and English styles to win charm and grace for modern.

In the exhibits of manufacturers we saw many examples of this borrowing from the traditional furniture designs. Notably, such things as the smooth flowing serpentine front for bedroom cases and dining room servers. It is also apparent in modern living room pieces, where you can see the hard angles being gradually smoothed out and being supplanted by the graceful flowing lines of the Louis XV period. Manufacturers are achieving this smoothness with bentwood, which is being hailed as an entirely new departure in modern designing and manufacturing.

ture. It is a considerable improvement and should win for modern many new followers.

Improve "Traditional"

After all this horn blowing for modern, I don't want the followers of the traditional furniture styles to become discouraged. Competition from the modern design has sharpened the wits of the manufacturers of the older styles of furniture to the point where they, too, have improved their furniture. Queen Anne, Victorian, Sheraton, Chippendale, and Heppelwhite designs are being done better today than they ever were. Refined carvings and mellow finishes that have become standardized so that the collector will be able to add their ensembles pieces that will have the same color tone to the wood will help the traditional styles immensely in the years to come. In the up-to-date lines new royal colors—reds, golds, blues, and fuchsias—shades—combined with mahogany and walnut in rich, dark colorings are meeting the challenge of modern for the fancies of those who want a more colorful home.

And if you are a follower of the French styles of furniture you have much to warm the cockles of your heart. To French furniture or royal inspiration has been added the hearty styles of the provinces for stammas, and many of the new French groupings will include pieces of the provincial influence. For furniture of sheer grace and artistry, there's nothing yet that can match the furniture styles that blossomed under the patronage of the Louis—those bon vivant kings of France who demanded of their furniture craftsmen furniture that would be different from the heavy, feudal pieces that had come forward from the dark ages. Furniture manufacturers are showing a marvelous selection of good French furniture at the different furniture markets—marquis chairs of irresistible charm, love seats and divans with graceful, sweeping designs and champagne colors and the tiny pewel chairs of the French court. This furniture in beautiful fruit-wood and satin-wood, with exquisite marquetry, inlays, and carvings is an outstanding example of everything that is good in the French style.

"Early American" Good

Coming back to our own federal and early American design we find that the furniture manufacturers are not forgetting those people that lean toward the furniture of our early days. Recognizing the interests that has been shown in the restoration of Williamsburg and the various other restorations of colonial times, furniture is being displayed in both mahogany and walnut as well as maple, cherry, tulip and native sycamore that faithfully reproduces the simple sturdiness of the time revered designs. Another furniture style that springs from the roots of the early days of this country is beginning to challenge the leadership of the early American and federal designs. It is southern colonial. Characterizing the soft, easy manner of the southland, where it was born with authentic poster beds, bonnet-hood highboys, the turned posts and the glamor reflected in the oval, wood frame mirrors that had their origin on the plantations of the Galleons and the Fendletons a century ago, this new style is expected to win northerners as well as continue to reign supreme in the south.

## Home Checkup Season's Here

### Attractiveness and Comfort Should Be Essentials; Time for Repairs

By MALCOLM DRAKE

The first hints of fall are hints of home and comfortable living. We comfort-loving mortals just naturally turn our thoughts to the inviting coziness and luxury of our modern shelters, where we can while away pleasant hours inside, when the weather no longer invites us to spend the livelong day outdoors.

This is the time to eye your house from a fresh viewpoint. Is it going to be comfortable, is it going to be attractive, is it going to be the ideal place in which to live during the next six months? If you've discovered a place where the roof dribsles, if the wind blows through the cracks around the bedroom windows, if the wallpaper in the upstairs hall has begun to give you the "willies," now is the time to correct all these domestic defects. It's time for a thorough "once-over," and if you're a true home lover you will feel the mood coming over you as the days grow perceptibly shorter—and you will positively ache to do something to the old homestead that will put more of "you" into it, and that will add more rest, pride, comfort, and satisfaction in your blessed home life.

Wise to Improve Now

Of course, to realize your ambitions of a "home, sweet home" that you can really warm up to may necessitate one or two major operations in the dwelling that you now call "our little place down the street." And if this is the case, you'll really be smart to make the changes. Improving your home to make it modern and more livable is a good investment these days. You can still do it at very reasonable cost; the spring building rush will have eased off a bit, and you can have the work done without hustle and bustle, and have it completed before the cold weather sets in.

Goodbye, Drab Homes

If your home is drab and gloomy, some modern ideas on remodeling will effect a miraculous transformation. You can, for example, convert an old-fashioned porch into an inviting sun-room at a very reasonable outlay, and the net result always is that you have added a whole new room to your house. Or, if you have a gloomy, crowded bedroom on the second floor, you can often have dormer windows broken into the roof, that will bring in the cheery sunlight and add immensely to the outside appearance of your home. If your home dates back to the "dark inside" days, you probably have an excess of doors, and a deficiency of windows on the first floor. Any rook architect who has had remodeling experience will be able to help you overcome this difficulty, and it need not cost a fortune either. Groups of windows, or one large window, located at the right place—a smart new entrance—and closing up some of the unnecessary doorways are minor changes that have made all the difference in the world in

## Cheerful Kitchen Is Among "Musts"

### Convenience Also Served; Built-in Vogue now Proves General

In this day and age why shouldn't every housewife have a cheerful, convenient kitchen that's a real pleasure to work in? If your kitchen has not been modernized in the last few years it's high time something was done about it—for it's causing twice as much work every day for the lady of the house than is necessary in the modern kitchen dated 1937.

Usually, too, many doors, low windows, and walled-off pantries are the obstacles to a nice job of modernizing. But this can all be corrected at a cost that's not prohibitive by any contractor who has specialized in this sort of work. With a few changes you can have continuous counters, convenient cabinets, and built-in breakfast nook installed. And it's worth a major operation to bring refrigerator, sink, and range together in a compact working unit, with equipment and supplies at arm's reach, instead of across or outside the room.

Vogue for "Built-in"

And while we are speaking of these features, we ought to mention a trend that is becoming more and more conspicuous, and that is the built-in features that are making homes not only more convenient but more interesting as well. Built-in bookcases, built-in cupboards, built-in cabinets built-in seats, desks, and what have you, are being used more and more—possibly a forerunner of the time predicted by some of our designers who are advance thinkers when most of our furniture itself will be built right into our homes. Have a look at some of the model built-in cupboards, cabinets, etc., that cabinet builders are showing these days, and see if they won't fit into swell advantage in your home. Many of these have been standardized of late, with the result that they may be had at very attractive prices, and may be installed in short order.

Before you select your painter, see some of his work—and it is a wise precaution to have your contract in writing, specifying exactly what is to be included in the painting. See that all necessary repairs are made before the painting is begun, as you will save time and money by making them first.

Before a wooden house is repainted, loose paint, blistered, scale should be scraped or burned off, and grease or dirt of any kind removed. Cracks, bad joints, nail holes, etc., should be put-tied up, if you want to be assured of a good job.

While in the past it has been considered necessary to use three coats for a house painting job that will stand up, recently two-coat paints have been developed that give all the advantages and long wearing qualities of the usual three coats. There is, of course, a considerable saving on labor costs in the use of these paints. The important thing to consider, regardless of what kind of paint you use, is that it is good quality paint—there is no saving in using paints of inferior grade.

And when you decide on the color you will use on your house, choose one that you really like, for you will have to live with it for a long time. In general it is wisest to employ a conservative color scheme for you will grow less tired of it.

## Paint to Protect Home Is Advised

### Good Workman as Well as Wise Choice of Color Some Essentials

If you have given thought to improvements in your home, you should give some thought, too, to the protection of the home that houses these improvements. How about the protection of a sturdy coat of paint against the elements of a long winter? If your house has gone a long time without paint, repainting now is a wise investment, and will, of course, be especially necessary if you have made any alterations in the exterior.

Fall painting will go a long way towards preserving your house, and fall is the time when the painters are less rushed and can do a careful and unhurried job.

If you are considering painting, take the time to choose a painter who knows his craft. Any man who can handle a brush is not necessarily qualified as a painter, as many house owners have found to their despair later. Good workmanship in painting, combined with good paint, will insure a long lasting job, and will spare you from unnecessary expense and disappointment later.

Ensemble Sister And Brother Act

At least one smart manufacturer this fall is putting out ensemble clothes for sister and her small brother... sister's dress for instance in wine colored pique with white collar and cuffs and small brother's suit in the same fabric and color combination. Cute?

Nothing is quite so smart and practical for the high school girl as two-piece affairs. She should have at least two good skirts, one in a plain color and another of plaids or stripes. They are a number of snappy little sweaters

## Cape Dresses to Hold Popularity

### The interest in cape dresses that was so much seen in the spring continues on into cold weather costumes. The capes are from fingertip to seven-eighths length. Many of them are made entirely of fur or are lavishly fur-trimmed. Shoulders are squared or sloping, although the squared shoulder is preferred. Dresses under fur or fur-trimmed capes are, of course, very simple, relying entirely on smartness of line for their effect.

The costume suit is a necessity for every well planned wardrobe. These, as every one knows, are those practical garments that combine a straight slim dress with a matching or contrasting coat. If your budget is limited it's wise to choose a suit that has a coat that may be worn with other dresses. The coats are usually three-quarters or seven-eighths in length.

If you have a liking for strictly tailored suits of the mannish type you'll be right in style this season, for they're enjoying a tremendous popularity. One of the chief reasons probably is that they are ideal for wear under a fur coat. Shoulders in this type of suit are perfectly plain, most of the interest given the suit being in the new, wider, deep notched lapels.

## Fur Collars Will Be new in Design

There's no end to the tricks you are likely to see in the collar designs of the new fur coats. Invariably small, they are often turned over into a tiny roll, or sometimes they develop into a small revers. The narrow, standing collar is going to command plenty of attention.

Collarless models, too, will appear in profusion, though a cluster of small tails hanging loosely at the neckline, the bright contrast of a dashing velvet scarf, or other such accents may be used

## Dress better for less in Wards

### Decidedly individual as a design feature for youthful full length fitted coats is the suggestion of a bolero in the bodice treatment of several models. A blithe note of styling that is sure to appeal to youthful tastes is the use of horizontal insets of

grosgrain or fabric bands on the sleeves, or through the shoulder and upper arm section.

The fullness for the fitted coat's flared skirts is achieved in many ingenious ways—godets, pleat or ripple treatments, or perhaps concentrated duffly at one side.

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